

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Claims 1, 3-6, 11, 14, 15, 17-20, 25, 27, 29, 31, 32, and 35 are amended herein. All pending claims and their present status are produced below.

1           1.       (Currently Amended) A method of tracking a security state for an intermodal  
2 container through a global supply chain, comprising:  
3           receiving ~~credentials~~ a credential from a first trusted agent confirming the first trusted  
4           agent has trusted status;  
5           receiving a required body of information concerning an intermodal container from the  
6           first trusted agent located at a first checkpoint;  
7           initiating a security state for the intermodal container with the required body of  
8           ~~information submitted by the first trusted agent located at a first checkpoint;~~  
9           ~~continuously~~ monitoring the security state of the container during transport between  
10          the first checkpoint and a second checkpoint, the security state adapted to  
11          change responsive a security breach;  
12          receiving ~~credentials~~ a credential from a second trusted agent confirming the second  
13          trusted agent has trusted status; and  
14          sending the security state to the second trusted agent located at the second checkpoint  
15          for validation.

1           2.       (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of initiating the security  
2 state comprises initiating the security state to a secure state responsive to an inspection by the  
3 first trusted agent.

1           3.       (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of  
2 ~~continuously~~ monitoring the security state comprises changing the security state responsive  
3 to a security breach defined by security business rules.

1           4.       (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the step of initiating~~  
2 ~~the security state comprises initiating the security state with a~~ the required body of  
3 ~~information comprising~~ comprises an expected transport route between the first checkpoint  
4 and the second checkpoint, and wherein the step of monitoring the security state comprises

5 changing the security state if the actual transport route deviates from the expected transport  
6 route.

1 5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the step of initiating~~  
2 ~~the security state comprises initiating the security state with a~~ the required body of  
3 information ~~comprising~~ comprises information related to authorized unsealing of the  
4 container, and wherein the step of monitoring the security state comprises changing the  
5 security state if the container is unsealed without authorization between the first checkpoint  
6 and the second checkpoint.

1 6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the step of initiating~~  
2 ~~the security state comprises initiating the security state with~~ the required body of information  
3 ~~comprising~~ comprises information concerning a unique identifier assigned to a seal that locks  
4 the container, and wherein the step of monitoring the security state comprises using the  
5 unique identifier to continually monitor the seal for a status.

1 7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the status comprises one from the  
2 group consisting of: door open, attempt to open door, door closed, door locked, right door  
3 open, and more than one door open.

1 8. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the status comprises an  
2 environmental state from the group consisting of: temperature, humidity, vibration, shock,  
3 light, and radiation.

1 9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:  
2 detecting the security breach; and  
3 resetting the security state responsive to the second agent submitting an indication  
4 that the container was resecured.

1 10. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:  
2 receiving an inspection request from an authority; and  
3 changing the security state responsive to the inspection request.

1           11.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 10, further comprising the  
2 ~~steps~~ step of:  
3           submitting ~~[[a]]~~ the required body of information, ~~including the information,~~ to ~~[[an]]~~  
4           the authority;  
5           wherein the authority sends the inspection request responsive to the required body of  
6           information.

1           12.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the first agent is located at an  
2 origin port of an export country and the second agent is located at a destination port of an  
3 import country.

1           13.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of monitoring comprises  
2 the steps of:  
3           receiving monitor information from a first reader at the first checkpoint through a first  
4           control center;  
5           receiving monitor information from a second reader on a transportation device; and  
6           receiving monitor information from a third reader at the second checkpoint through a  
7           second control center.

1           14.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 13, wherein the container  
2 comprises an RFID (Radio Frequency IDentification) tag, and the first, second, and third  
3 readers each comprise an RFID reader.

1           15.   (Currently Amended) A security state system for tracking a container through  
2 a global supply chain, comprising:  
3           a first receiving module for receiving ~~credentials~~ a credential from a first trusted  
4           agent confirming the first trusted agent has trusted status;  
5           a second receiving module for receiving a required body of information concerning a  
6           container submitted by the first trusted agent located at a first checkpoint, the  
7           second receiving module coupled to the first receiving module;  
8           a required body of information module to store the required body of information-

9                    ~~concerning the container~~ submitted by ~~[[a]]~~ the first trusted agent ~~located at a~~  
10                    ~~first checkpoint~~, the required body of information module coupled to the  
11                    second receiving module;

12                    a ~~second~~ third receiving module for receiving ~~credentials~~ a credential from a second  
13                    trusted agent confirming the second trusted agent has trusted status; and  
14                    a security state module, coupled to the required body of information module and the  
15                    ~~second~~ third receiving module, the security state module initiating the security  
16                    state based on the required body of information, ~~continuously~~ the security  
17                    state module monitoring the security state between the first checkpoint and a  
18                    second checkpoint, the security state adapted to change responsive to a  
19                    security breach, and the security state module sending the security state to a  
20                    second trusted agent at the second checkpoint for validation.

1                    16.    (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the security state module initiates  
2                    the security state to a secure state responsive to an inspection by the first trusted agent.

1                    17.    (Currently Amended) The system of claim 15, wherein the security state  
2                    module ~~further comprises to~~ changes the security state responsive to a security breach  
3                    defined by security business rules.

1                    18.    (Currently Amended) The system of claim 15, wherein the required body of  
2                    information comprises an expected transport route between the first checkpoint and the  
3                    second checkpoint, and wherein the security state module changes the security state if the  
4                    actual transport route deviates from the expected transport route.

1                    19.    (Currently Amended) The system of claim 15, wherein the the required body  
2                    of information comprises authorized unsealing of the container, and wherein the security  
3                    state module changes the security state if the container is unsealed without authorization  
4                    between the first checkpoint and the second checkpoint.

1                    20.    (Currently Amended) The system of claim 15, wherein the required body of  
2                    information comprises a unique identifier assigned to a seal that locks the container, and

3 wherein the security state module uses the unique identifier to continually monitor the seal  
4 for a status.

1 21. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the status comprises one from the  
2 group consisting of: door open, attempt to open door, door closed, door locked, right door  
3 open, and more than one door open.

1 22. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the status comprises an  
2 environmental state from the group consisting of: temperature, humidity, vibration, shock,  
3 light, and radiation.

1 23. (Original) The system of claim 15, further comprising a seal device to detect  
2 a security breach, wherein the security state module resets the security state responsive to the  
3 second agent submitting an indication that the container was resecured.

1 24. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the security state module changes  
2 the security state responsive to receiving an inspection request from a customs control center.

1 25. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 15, wherein the security state  
2 module submits [[a]] the required body of information, ~~including the information~~, to a  
3 customs control center [[,]] and receives an inspection request responsive to the required  
4 body of information.

1 26. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the first agent is located at an  
2 origin port of an export country and the second agent is located at a destination port of an  
3 import country.

1 27. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 15, wherein the required body of  
2 information module receives the required body of information from a first reader at the first  
3 checkpoint through a first control center, the security state module receives ~~continuous~~  
4 monitoring information from a second reader; and receives a validation confirmation from a  
5 third reader at the second checkpoint through a second control center.

1           28.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 27, wherein the container  
2   comprises an RFID (radio frequency identification) tag, and the first, second, and third  
3   readers comprise an RFID reader.

1           29.   (Currently Amended) A computer product having a computer-readable  
2   medium having computer program instructions embodied thereon capable of causing a  
3   computer to perform a method of tracking a security state for an intermodal container  
4   through a global supply chain, the method comprising:

5           receiving ~~credentials~~ a credential from a first trusted agent confirming the first trusted  
6           agent has trusted status;

7           receiving a required body of information concerning an intermodal container from the  
8           first trusted agent located at a first checkpoint;

9           initiating a security state for the intermodal container with the required body of

10          ~~information submitted by the first trusted agent located at a first checkpoint;~~

11          ~~continuously~~ monitoring the security state of the container during transport between

12          the first checkpoint and a second checkpoint, the security state adapted to

13          change responsive a security breach;

14          receiving ~~credentials~~ a credential from a second trusted agent confirming the second  
15          trusted agent has trusted status; and

16          sending the security state to the second trusted agent located at the second checkpoint  
17          for validation.

1           30.   (Original) The computer product of claim 29, wherein the step of initiating  
2   the security state comprises initiating the security state to a secure state responsive to an  
3   inspection by the first trusted agent.

1           31.   (Currently Amended) The computer product of claim 29, wherein the step of  
2   ~~continuously~~ monitoring the security state comprises changing the security state responsive  
3   to a security breach defined by security business rules.

1        32.    (Currently Amended) The computer product of claim 29, wherein the ~~step of~~  
2 ~~initiating the security state comprises initiating the security state with a required body of~~  
3 ~~information comprising~~ comprises information concerning a unique identifier assigned to a  
4 seal that locks the container, and wherein the step of monitoring the security state comprises  
5 using the unique identifier to continually monitor the seal for a status.

1        33.    (Original) The computer product of claim 29, further comprising the steps of:  
2 detecting the security breach; and  
3 resetting the security state responsive to the second agent submitting an indication  
4 that the container was resecured.

1        34.    (Original) The computer product of claim 29, further comprising the steps of:  
2 receiving an inspection request from an authority; and  
3 changing the security state responsive to the inspection request.

1        35.    (Currently Amended) The computer product of claim ~~[[29]]~~ 34, further  
2 comprising the ~~steps~~ step of:  
3 submitting ~~[[a]] the~~ required body of information, ~~including the information,~~ to ~~[[an]]~~  
4 the authority;  
5 wherein the authority sends the inspection request responsive to the required body of  
6 information.  
7

1        36.    (Original) The computer product of claim 29, wherein the first agent is  
2 located at an origin port of an export country and the second agent is located at a destination  
3 port of an import country.